

Gateway Library News

Spring 2011



"Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world.." - Nelson Mandela

Library Launches New Ways To Help Students

Gateway Librarians have recently been implementing and expanding reference and research services to reach a growing new generation of our college students. Through instant messaging and mobile technology, library staff members are reaching out and helping students who now regularly conduct research from their computers and smart-phones anywhere and at any time. The Library continues to develop resources and services to include mobile users. **New this semester**, we have added the following texting and virtual reference services:



Text A Librarian: Gateway librarians will respond to queries sent via texting during library hours. To send a text dial 203-212-8329 from your mobile device. This is just one more way of reaching out to our students using the technology that is most comfortable for them.



By clicking on this icon on our homepage, students will be taken to our new **LibAnswers** page where questions can be asked and answers to previously asked related questions will appear first. This also allows for easy submission of questions and answers by email.



Online help can be provided via **Meebo**, an instant messaging ("chat") tool by a member of the library staff during normal hours of operation. When the chat service is offline, a message may be left with an email address, for later response from the library.

New! Early Bird Hours: Due to the overwhelming success of the college's early bird classes, the library will now open at **7:15am on Tuesdays and Thursdays** at the Long Wharf campus only during the Spring Semester.

Visit the new and improved library homepage!

— Dr. Clara Ogbaa
Director of Library Services

Library Workshops

The library will be offering a series of "How To" workshops this semester at both campuses. Gateway librarians will give demonstrations, offer hands-on training, and provide time for questions and answers. Workshops are open to faculty, staff, and students and can also be presented in the classroom by appointment. Free, online registration is available at <http://gwcc.libguides.com/libraryworkshop>. Walk-ins are also welcome.

LONG WHARF

Name	Date
How to Access & Search Library Databases through myCommNet	Th.,2/17
How to Search For and use eBooks	Mon.,2/28
How to Search Health & Psychology Databases	Mon.,3/14
How to Search Business Databases	Mon.,3/28
How to use MLA & APA Citation Styles	Th., 4/14

NORTH HAVEN

Name	Date
How to Access & Search Library Databases through myCommNet	Mon.,2/14
How to Search For and use eBooks	Th.,2/24
How to Search Health & Psychology Databases	Tu.,3/8
How to Search Business Databases	Th.,3/17
How to use MLA & APA Citation Styles	Mon.,4/11

Snapshot Day



Snapshot Day, a project of the Connecticut Library Association, the Connecticut State Library and the Connecticut Library Consortium will take place Wednesday, April 13th.

The library staff will record the number of transactions for the day, take pictures in the library, and ask for testimonials from patrons. Last year's first ever Snapshot Day was a huge success: More than 80,000 people visited Connecticut libraries borrowing nearly 100,000 books, movies and other materials, and 113,000 people visited libraries' websites. Please remember to stop by the library on April 13th and be a part of this exciting event showcasing the importance of libraries of all kinds.

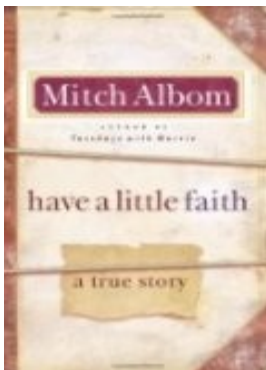
Librarian's Pick

What is *IdeaScale*?

IdeaScale is a free web 2.0 tool that enables a community of users to submit and discuss ideas on any topic. Users can share their ideas, brainstorm ideas with others to make them better, view other people's ideas, and vote on ideas. Voting allows the most popular ideas to go to the top.

Register and join the college-wide dialogue at
<http://gatewaycommunitycollege.ideascale.com/>

Book Review



BM729.F3 A496 2009

have a little faith by Mitch Albom is a quick read which provides an opportunity to ponder our understanding of our own faith and the beliefs of others while rejoicing in our ability to change who we are. As in "Tuesdays with Morrie", the author chronicles his visits, this time with his rabbi. The text also follows the life of a minister serving the homeless in Albom's new hometown of Detroit.

In *have a little faith* the descriptions of the minister's life are more compelling. The book looks back into his youth in an impoverished neighborhood with gang violence, young fatherhood, family deaths, and imprisonment. He faced the challenge to continue along his life path probably leading to more jail time or death or to change who he was. After serving his jail sentence, he returned to his family and entered the ministry. Upon reassignment to Detroit, he established a homeless shelter in a run down church. The hole in the roof covered by a blue tarp, provided by the author, speaks to more than a

lack of funding. Fixing the roof, even with a temporary patch, is an analogy for the hard work that the minister has accomplished in reforming his life, fixing the hole in his humanity.

His rabbi opened the author's eyes to acceptance of others for their faith and efforts. Nearing death, the rabbi teaches that you may be remembered for generations not for the things that you acquire but for your actions in helping others. The rabbi instructs that it is possible to change and that others should be respected for their commitment to their faith and to their families, friends, and neighbors. The author comes to understand that differences in faith should not keep us apart. The rabbi accepts a blessing from a Christian and returns his blessing.

The lessons in *have a little faith* apply to so much of what makes up our Gateway community. It illustrates that our differences can actually serve to unite us. More importantly, it demonstrates that people can change and in changing they can have a positive impact on their community.

-- Anne Williams, Professor of Business

Teaching in the pod

The following excerpt was written by Rachel King, an adjunct English professor at Gateway, describing her experience using the library's collaboration pod as a teaching tool.

"The C-pod is an invaluable resource for my Advanced Teaching Composition courses. I use it for small-group instruction sessions throughout the semester. More than just a tool for hands-on instruction, the C-pod offers a unique opportunity for collaborative problem-solving in real-time. We can work as a group to address a particular technical or research-related question a student might have. The C-pod is a "think tank" and my students' response to this unique technology has been overwhelmingly positive."



Adjunct English instructor Rachel King and her class at the C-pod.

Staff Happenings

Library Professional Development

Success 2.0: Enhancing Student Learning & Retention

Dr. Clara Ogbaa, Martha Lipowski, and Bill Maisfehl attended the Teaching and Learning Annual Technology Conference held on October 29th at Middlesex Community College. The conference featured Dr. Patricia O'Brien as keynote speaker. Dr. O'Brien addressed some of the issues concerning the NEASC standards for assessment and ways technology can help. Breakout sessions were presented by CCC faculty, staff and librarians. Some of the sessions included "ePortfolios: An Introduction," "Student Self-Assessment," "Online Student Support Services," and "Creating Just-in-Time Resources for Faculty and Students."

Civility on Campus

Dr. Clara Ogbaa and Martha Lipowski attended the Connecticut Community College Professional Day conference on October 15th at Manchester Community College. Margaret Steinegger-Keyser, South-African citizen and consultant to groups dealing with conflict, gave the keynote. Breakout sessions were held afterwards and included two of Gateway's esteemed leaders - Dr. Ogbaa presented "The Role of Quality Customer Service in Enhancing Collegiality in Our Workplace," while Dean Kosinski presented "A College is Not a Kibbutz: When Conflict Becomes Incivility on Our Campuses."

Librarians help to "Warm Up America"

Staff and students forged a unique bond this Fall with the establishment of Gateway's Knitting Group. Helping to create and donate knitted items to "Warm Up America" and the Holiday Dinner for the Less Fortunate were library director Dr. Clara Ogbaa, and librarians Jianxin Yang and Martha Lipowski. The knitters met weekly on Mondays during lunchtime and grew throughout the semester, with the more experienced knitters teaching those with little or no experience. They will continue to meet this semester at LW and will meet at the North Haven campus on Wednesdays. Faculty, staff, and students are encouraged to join and spend a relaxing hour making new friends and contributing to a worthy cause. For information on how to join, go to the College Life Office in Room 138LW or call 203-285-2208.



Some of the Knitting Group members.

Student Focus

Nice, hard-working and smart are all words I would use to describe Licella Arboleda. This 29 year-old Gateway student is married, the mother of two girls, ages 2 and 3 1/2, and was working full-time until recently being laid off from Wells Fargo Financial. With all that on her plate, she still manages to excel in her studies and volunteer for Junior Achievement and her church. Licella's made the Dean's list every semester, has a 3.93 GPA, and is a member of Phi Theta Kappa. By this May, she will have earned her Associate's Degree in Liberal Arts in just three semesters with the addition of Winter-session and CLEP credits. It's no wonder her motto is "Go big or go home." She will start at SCSU in September where she will major in Sociology or Social Work, her goal to work in a field helping others.



Licella Arboleda spends many hours studying in the library.

Licella admits she wasn't always so motivated. She started at Gateway when she was 19 years old, but dropped out because of personal reasons. Now she's back with a vengeance and says she has learned to master time management. There have been many sleepless nights but one of her most motivating factors is that she will be the first generation college graduate in her family on both sides. Her connection with Gateway goes even further. Licella's husband Juan is also a Gateway graduate and her older daughter Zoe attends the Early Learning Center. Her take on how she does it all — "You can find a million reasons not to do something, but it only takes one to do it." Advice we could all heed at some point in our lives.

Congratulations Licella on your incredible accomplishments thus far. You are an inspiration to others facing challenges showing that anything's possible with determination, motivation and hard work. Good luck on the rest of your journey.

--Martha Lipowski

***Explore, Inquire,
Discover & Learn***

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GWCC Library



Library staff members welcome our students, faculty and staff.

*Your library just got better!
Stop by for all your information &
research needs.*

*All editions of the library newsletter are
available online—go to the library's
homepage and click on "Newsletter."*

Gateway Library

Long Wharf Campus
203-285-2057

North Haven Campus
203-285-2340

email: library@gwcc.commnet.edu



Text A Librarian at
203-212-8329

Spring Semester Hours

Long Wharf

Mon & Wed	7:45-8:00
Tues & Thu	7:15-8:00
Fri	7:45-6:00
Sat	9:00-3:00

North Haven

Mon - Thu	8:00-8:00
Fri	8:00-3:00